

***ATTACHMENT H***

# SPARTACUS PROJECT OF NEVADA

DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR

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EMAIL: SPARTACUSPROJECT@YAHOO.COM

Prison Commissioner's meeting—Tuesday, March 08, 2011.

Subject: Human Rights Violations by Prison & Parole Behavior of State Employees.

I have the usual complaints of most Nevada taxpayers: Wasted money on non-essential state employees—with too great a benefit package. The idea of a parole officer servicing 70 parolees, which equates to 2 1/3 charges handled a day--over a 30 day work month--is ludicrous! Even serving 80 parolees a month is laughable. Audits have shown these well-paid state employees don't service their sexual offenders as ordered. What the Hell are they doing? My opinion: Nothing much! Firefighters aren't the only city, county, & state employees, cheating the Nevada Taxpayer! Nevadan's: WAKE UP!

I specifically want to point out the Mission Statement for Parole Officer's duties which is abused, distorted and disgustingly lacking in good judgment by Parole Officers, to the regret of Nevada Taxpayers. Many of Nevada's Parole Officers assume power not granted to any department within the State of Nevada's judicial system. (One Sgt. Larry Johnson, parole officer, in the Las Vegas office is particularly vicious to parolees & brags about his recidivism return rate to prison by the stroke of his pen. This man, in my opinion, is a coward and needs psychiatric help. Governor, you are in a position to help this man, and every parolee that has been abused by this man. Legal remedy is a certainty in his very near future. This Parole Officer is a civil rights violator. This Officer should be fully investigated and fired from his job for his wanton & vicious ability to violate men trying to get re-established back into society. This officer is not helpful.) This subject, Governor, needs your attention. The Attorney General, & Secretary of State, is aware of the problem, but hide their heads in the Nevada Dirt, hoping some future political offering may come their way. All Nevadan's know this statement is true.

How many parole officers does it take to "capture" a suspected parole violator, while a suspected parolee is on his job? Sgt. Johnson sent four men to "capture" the one I'm most interested in at the moment, #95639. Wasted manpower, or just something to give these parole officers something to do? Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department has the same procedure for escorting a man(3) to his home, to instruct this man on how to work an ankle bracelet. The man was Vince Neil, many times over a millionaire and business man—Rock Star. If Sheriff Gillespie can't find better use for his men, he should let the Nevada Taxpayer off the hook and reduce his politically-soft-work-force-hired-help. Yet, Sheriff Gillespie whines about his too little budget of \$512 million this year & that his work force needs more manpower. And, I need a job, and I work for a lot less than Public Safety employees. Give me a break!

Governor, your office needs to investigate the Administrative Regulations that keep men locked up 24/7 in our Nevada Prison System—much initiated by then DOC Director, Skolnik. (I believe, he is a thief. Send me a man to investigate and I'll supply the source. The source is a retired attorney from the Great State of Nevada.) Of course, many years ago, I tried to get State Senator, Chip Maxwell, brought to light for his extra marital abuses—NO NEVADA legislator listened. Yet, he brought on the "TRUTH IN SENTENCING LAW, AND GOT IT PASSED". A real hypocrite, or a true blue-blooded Nevadan?



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In a recent Nevada news paper article, Review Journal of Las Vegas, there was a quite lengthy article on the state of Nevada Prisons. The paper generated lots of coverage. It seems to me in 2000, myself and Ms. Mercedes McHaris, who co-authored the SPARTACUS REPORT, covered most of what is being reported and, in truth, much more! Couldn't even get the Governor's Office to read it, after Governor Guinn, promised to read it. Also given to the Attorney General Office for a Ms. Frankie Sue Del Pappa—then attorney general of Nevada, who also promised to read it. In addition, it was given to the Secretary of State's Office—which also was not read after that promise was given it would be read. After six months of waiting for a comment from the Nevada Prison Commissioners, I returned to the Governor's Office, the Secretary of State's Office, and the Office of the Attorney General, and collected all copies given to those aforementioned State Officials. The seal had never been broken and, of course, were unread. Nevada doesn't have the greatest record for electing the right person to do their business. What bothers me? Why we haven't learned a better & quicker lesson & why we keep electing the same buffoons? There are more citizens in this state then just the rich and politically connected.

When Nevada has on the Prison Commission, a Victim Rights Leader, and someone who spends millions of dollars fighting prisoner lawsuits, instead of litigating the necessary ones, and the needed ones, is a violation to every Taxpayer in the state, and in many cases, a violation of Civil Rights of Prisoners. What is being proven in this office is "Might Is Right". Many times this pathetic abuse is the cause of a prisoner's death. This Taxpayer hasn't forgotten several immediate causes of death of a prisoner, by a "Might Is Right" public administrator, who refused to administer to their duty of elected office. Prisoners are citizens and are entitled to every legal relief--as are all citizens—including good medical, dental, phone and visiting privileges and decent food beyond the \$1.27 allotted to the Department of Corrections budget to feed the incarcerated. The Department of Corrections pays more to feed their horses on a daily bases than their citizen prisoners. Maybe, if Prisoners Pat Cavanaugh & Nolan Klein were domestic animals they would have been treated medically, and correctly, and still be alive today. I'm so proud to be a citizen of this state, knowing my best interests are at the forefront of my elected officials. I feel so blessed...Actually, I'd feel safer in the Russian Gulag's--than Nevada's putrid prisons.

Let's go back to the year 2000 and the SPARTACUS REPORT. I covered the "NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FOOD LABEL". I covered medical, dental, mental health, proper sanitation, exercise and proper nutrition and a host of other damaging aspects of prison life. In addition, I covered little schooling and trade education for Nevada Prisoners. It is practically obliterated in today's system. My question: "How is that helping Nevada and the future"? This prison system is so pathetically sick it restricts an exercise yard and the Sun. There is something wrong with this picture of Nevada's prison system and money from Taxpayers won't fix it. Releasing low-level prisoners, and shortening sentences will help. And, all suspected Parole Violator's be given a court hearing before their lives are disrupted, and their families, on opinion of a parole officer--possibly seeking promotion or job security. "NOW!" Governor, as a past Federal Court Judge & State Attorney General, you know it's time for change. My tax dollars can't stand any more abuse from a political animal/legislator and/or political parasite. PASS SENATE BILL #201. It is needed and long overdue! Submitted: March 08, 2011. /s/ Donald Hinton, Sr.

*Donald Hinton, Sr.*



# ACLU

*Report calls for lower population, external oversight*

By CARRI GEER THEVENOT

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Overcrowding and understaffing are preventing Nevada prisons from meeting the basic human needs of those they incarcerate, according to a report released this week by the American Civil Liberties Union of Nevada.

"We're concerned about whether or not they're safe, whether or not they're sanitary," said Maggie McLetchie, legal director for the ACLU of Nevada. "It's about bare minimums."

The 68-page report was authored by Rebecca Paddock, the group's prisoner rights fellow.

Paddock, who recently joined the Clark County public defender's office, concluded that the state needs to reduce its prison population by reclassifying some felonies and by expanding community-based treatment programs. She also concluded that the Nevada Department of Corrections needs external oversight, and called for legislation to prohibit the shackling of pregnant prisoners.

"While Nevada is, of course, not required to provide inmates with a luxurious standard of living, the state has a legal and moral obligation to ensure that basic needs such as proper sanitation, nutrition, exercise, medical, dental, and mental health care are met," according to the report. "Not doing so violates basic standards of decency and human rights norms and in the long run, will

'NOT FIT'

# rap's state's prisons

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only cost Nevada even more money it can't afford."

In a statement released Friday, the department disputed the report's conclusions.

"It appears much of the data the ACLU relies on is skewed and anecdotal which presents a distorted view of the NDOC," according to the statement. "The NDOC is not committing human rights violations and it is offensive to suggest otherwise. The NDOC is continually working to provide constitutional care to over 12,000 inmates on a daily basis."

Paddock said she analyzed all the information she could, but the Department of Corrections resisted requests for records. Her report notes that the obstacles the ACLU faced in obtaining documents from the department raise "grave questions about the transparency of NDOC."

The report does include stories told by prisoners, but Paddock said some were so similar that they gained credibility. For instance, multiples inmates at multiple prisons reported seeing a "not for human consumption" label on meat served to prisoners.

"I was going all over Nevada, and inmates were saying the same thing," Paddock said.

That anecdote led to the report's title, "Not Fit For Human Consumption or Habitation: Nevada's Prisons in Crisis."

According to the report, the most recent audits of Nevada prisons by the Bureau of Health Care and Quality Compliance, which has no authority over the prisons, found that many of the facilities were violating the health code

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MAGGIE MCLECHIE  
LEGAL DIRECTOR, ACLU OF NEVADA

by failing to provide training to the culinary staff.

At the Southern Desert Correctional Center, the bureau "confirmed an inmate's complaint that inmates were served food that had been left in the food delivery area where crows were allowed to open the packages and eat the food."

McLetchie said the ACLU cannot file lawsuits over every illegal practice in Nevada prisons, so it undertook the project as a way to educate the public and promote legislative change.

"We've never done a report like this before," McLetchie said. "It's groundbreaking for us."

The ACLU of Nevada filed a class-action lawsuit against the state in 2008 after the organization's doctor, William Noel, met with and studied the records of 35 inmates at Ely State Prison.

He called the care for inmates "the most shocking and callous disregard for human life and human suffering" he had encountered in the medical profession.

The lawsuit contended that inmates such as former Coasters manager Patrick Cavanaugh, who died in 2006, suffer excruciating pain but are denied medications and surgeries by prison medical staff.

Noel said Cavanaugh was left to die a "slow, painful death" in which there was the "unmistakable smell of putrefying flesh."

Cavanaugh, 60, was an insulin-depend-

dent diabetic who was not given medication in the last three years of his life and ended up with gangrene in his limbs.

Prison medical officials, however, contended Cavanaugh refused medications despite repeated attempts to reason with him.

The ACLU of Nevada received \$325,000 in legal fees when the case settled last year.

According to the statement released Friday by the Department of Corrections, the decision of ACLU lawyers to settle the case showed that "they had doubts as to the merits of the claims which we considered to be wildly inaccurate."

But McLetchie contends the ACLU settled the lawsuit "because it was in the best interests of everyone, especially the inmates at Ely State Prison, to focus resources on improving medical conditions at the prison rather than on protracted and costly litigation."

She said the ACLU never sought money damages in the case, and the lawsuit succeeded in placing an independent monitor at the prison to ensure that medical services are provided in a constitutional way.

The prison report does not mention Cavanaugh by name, but does discuss a separate case filed by his family and notes that the state recently settled that lawsuit for \$450,000.

Paddock said she did not know what she would find when she began researching Nevada's prisons and was shocked to discover problems "at a basic-needs level."

She said she sympathizes with the Department of Corrections and realizes it suffers from inadequate funding.

"It really wasn't necessarily my primary purpose to point fingers," she said

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